

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM
(LPFM) Broadcast Service

FCC RM-9242

To: Federal Communications Commission

Reply - Comments of Robert Rega

I would like to start by saying LPFM is a service that is well overdue. I am in complete favor for the approval of **RM-9242**, and it's proposed power levels. What good would a service be if your signal barely gets out of your back yard? I would like to express my support of **RM-9242** with the following comments. First, I want to say I can't, nor will I, comment about scarce channel space in large cities, so I will speak only of my own Community and what **LPFM RM-9242** could do for it. Due to the lack of local service we have in Punxsutawney, PA, population 6,782, I can assure you that **LPFM** would play a great role in allowing small businesses to advertise at a fraction of the cost and put local ownership where it belongs, in the community it serves.

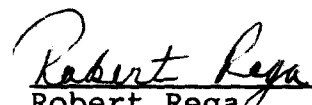
As of today's date, unless you live at high elevations, there are only a few stations that can be received, and three (3) of them are out of Pittsburgh which is 80+ miles away. The one local station that is in Punxsutawney (WPXZ, ERP 3KW) goes off the air at midnight, seven (7) days a week. The reason being it is owned by millionaire Tony Renda who resides in Pittsburgh. He will not allow the Station on the air or employ anyone after Midnight for the reason "the Station does not make money when people are sleeping". The point I am making is after the station milks the community for all it can, it goes off the air. I ask where is the pay-back? WPXZ gives nothing back to the community. But more so, from 12 Midnight to 6:30 AM we have no local radio stations. The truth is no station out of Pittsburgh or 50+ miles North of Pittsburgh care enough about a small town like mine to inform my community of any local affairs or let us know about

the local Church Ham Dinner. I believe it's time for the F.C.C. to stand-up for individuals, minorities and women while sending a message to organizations like N.A.B. by saying blue collar citizens have a right to own a broadcasting station, and you don't need corporate funding to do it. In the beginning of my comments, I stated that I would only speak of my small community and now I will do just that. First I would like to state that outside the six (6) channels used in my community, the band is wide open for **LPFM**. So I ask, would the N.A.B. or USA Digital Radio L.P. care about **LPFM** being legal in communities they never knew existed?

Members of the F.C.C., I beg of you to stand-up for us who live in small communities and allow **LPFM**. The Commission needs to remember that there are still a lot of communities that not only don't care about digital radio, but still drive farm tractors to and from a friend's home. What we do care about is what's going on in our own back yards and that's information we'll never get from Pittsburgh. The truth is, unless it's Ground Hog Day, we'll never see a TV camera or a N.A.B. Representative, However, if **LPFM** is approved at the requested power levels, this small community will see a chance to advertise a dozen spots for \$10.00 instead of \$300.00, and the town Reverend can do sermons for the elderly who cannot leave their homes to attend the Service.

In closing, I would like to mention I worked for WPXZ and I know their practices. If I learned anything from my employment, it's that Tony Renda could care less about my community's needs, just what he can get from it, and that is the exact reason why **LPFM** is so important. I cannot tell you how many times while employed at WPXZ I received calls from parents of children requesting a lost dog or cat announcement be made and I was told "no, because lost pets don't make us money". In my view, **LPFM** could put a smile on the face of some child when their pet is found, because **LPFM** was there when the community needed a station who wasn't in Radio solely for the profit. I ask the Commission, isn't that what Radio Communications are all about, helping the community it serves?

Sincerely,


Robert Rega

237 Main St.
Worthville PA 15784
814-938-4972

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Robert Rega, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Reply - Comments on RM-9242" was sent via First Class Mail, this 6th day of July, 1998, to the following parties:

Henry L. Baumann
Executive Vice-President and General Counsel
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS
1771 N Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Counsel for State Broadcasters Associations
Richard R. Zaragoza
David D. Oxenford
FISHER WAYLAND COOPER LEADER & ZARAGOZA, L.L.P.
2001 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006-1851

Counsel for USA Digital Radio, L.P.
Robert A. Mazer
Albert Shuldiner
VINSON & ELKINS, L.L.P.
1455 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1008

American Community AM Broadcasters, Inc. (ACAMBA)
Bryan Smeathers, President
P.O. Box 973
Central City, KY 42330

RM-9242 Petitioner
J. Rodger Skinner, Jr. / President
TRA Communications Consultants, Inc.
6431 NW 65th Terrace
Pompano Beach, FL 33067-1546


Robert Rega